

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA**, on March 13, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Larry Jent (D)  
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary  
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 440, 3/9/2007; HB 364, 3/9/2007  
Executive Action: HB 193, HB 171

00:00:00 Chairman Tropila

**HEARING ON HB 440**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:16 **REP. DEBBY BARRETT (R), HD 72**, opened the hearing on **HB 440**, Direct FWP to revise and update state's wolf management plan.

**EXHIBIT(fis53a01)**

**Proponents:**

00:08:09 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

00:09:30 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)

00:10:07 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrower's Association

00:12:05 Elaine Alsted, Former Sweetgrass County Commission

00:12:50 Sheryl Wood, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MAC)

00:13:23 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides

00:13:40 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers Union

**Opponents:**

00:14:05 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

00:17:14 Ken Swain, Self

**Informational Testimony:**

00:23:00 Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

**EXHIBIT(fis53a02)**

00:29:05 Vice Chair Sen. Gallus

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:29:19 Sen. Barkus to Chris Smith, FWP

00:32:33 Sen. Hansen to Rep. Barrett

00:33:57 Sen. Hansen to Chris Smith, FWP

00:35:14 Sen. Larson to Chris Smith, FWP

00:36:58 Sen. Larson to Rep. Barrett

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:38:53 Rep. Barrett

**EXHIBIT(fis53a03)**

**HEARING ON HB 364**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:47:02 Break

00:50:16 **REP. BRUCE MALCOLM (R), HD 61**, opened the hearing on **HB 364**, Establish board and fund to compensate livestock owners for wolf predation.

**Proponents:**

00:55:51 Nelson Wert, Veterinarian, Governor's Wolf Advisory Council

**EXHIBIT(fis53a04)**

01:01:15 Nelson Wert testified in behalf of the Montana Angus and Montana Herford Associations

01:01:26 Sen. Esp

01:02:55 Elaine Allestad, Rancher from Sweetgrass County

01:04:04 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

01:04:57 Pat Torgerson, WIFE

01:05:26 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrower's Association

01:06:54 Hal Harper, Governor's Office

**EXHIBIT(fis53a05)**

01:09:50 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association

01:10:01 Jean Johnson testified in behalf of Janet Ellis for the Montana Audubon

01:11:54 Sheryl Wood, Association Director, Montana Association of Counties

01:12:17 Ken Swain, Self

01:12:52 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmer's Union

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

01:13:35 Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, FWP

**EXHIBIT(fis53a06)**

01:14:55 George Harris, Executive Officer, Board of Livestock

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:16:32 Sen. Tash to Sen. Esp

01:18:04 Sen. Balyeat to Chris Smith, FWP

01:20:05 Sen. Balyeat to George Harris, Board of Livestock

01:20:26 Sen. Balyeat to Sen. Esp

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:21:45 Rep. Malcolm

01:23:28 Sen. Bales to Rep. Malcolm

01:24:32 Sen. Balyeat to Hal Harper, Governor's Office

01:26:37 Rep. Malcolm

01:27:48 Chairman Tropila

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 193**

01:28:04 **Motion:** SEN. GALLUS moved that HB 193 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:**

01:28:18 **Motion:** SEN. GALLUS moved that AMENDMENT SB019301.AJK  
BE ADOPTED.

**EXHIBIT**(fis53a07)

**Discussion:**

01:29:58 Sen. Tash

01:30:47 Sen. Gallus

01:31:37 Joe Kolman, LSD

01:32:31 Sen. Balyeat

01:33:32 **Vote:** Motion that AMENDMENT BE ADOPTED carried  
unanimously by voice vote.

01:33:43 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. GALLUS moved that HB 193 BE  
CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by  
voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 171**

01:34:28 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. BARKUS moved that HB 171 BE TABLED.  
Motion carried 8-1 by voice vote with SEN. BALYEAT  
voting no.

01:35:13 Chairman Tropila

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:35 P.M.

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SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA, Chairman

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CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

JT/cj

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fis53aad.pdf](#))**